

JUL 5 1965

## An Issue for Red China

## 'Liberation' for Israel?

By R. H. SHACKFORD

Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Communist China has found an issue and a man with which it hopes to stir up the same kind of subversion in the Middle East that is rampant today in Southeast Asia.

The issue is Israel — which the Chinese say must be "liberated" (meaning subverted) by a relatively new outfit called the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The man is Ahmad Shukairy — one of the wildest demagogues and anti-Americans ever to serve as a delegate to the United Nations. He is president of the PLO which was formally created at the January, 1964, summit conference of Arab kings and presidents.

As the UN delegate for Syria (before he was fired) and then as UN delegate for Saudi Arabia (before he was fired), Shukairy delivered some of the most violent speeches ever heard at the UN.

Last March he visited Peking where he was wined, dined and flattered, and returned to the Middle East with Mao Tse-tung's blessing and an "agreement" with the Chinese Reds on "military matters."

Red China long has been an enemy of Israel, denouncing it as an "imperialist" creation of the U. S. and the UN. But only in recent months has China

seemed to move from just propaganda toward actively fomenting trouble.

Wooing support everywhere in the Afro-Asian world, the Chinese see Israel as a made-to-order issue for exploitation in getting the six Arab states of the Middle East and the North African nations on China's side in Viet Nam.

China's immediate objective, with the second Bandung Afro-Asian conference scheduled for Algiers at the end of the month, is to get near-unanimous opposition there to U. S. policies in Viet Nam.

Premier Chou En-Lai was tidying up some loose ends of this project during his recent, quick trip to Tanzania with stopovers en route home in Damascus and Baghdad.

For months, Peking has been trying to link the Viet Nam issue with the problems of Israel and the Congo.

It appeals to Arab prejudices on Israel and the sentiments of many Africans over the Congo. All three problems, according to Peking, are a consequence of U. S. machinations.

The "line" set forth by China is that the Congo is the Viet Nam of Africa and that Israel soon may be the Viet Nam for the Arab world.

The U. S. is alleged to be engaged or preparing soon to engage in aggression in both the

Congo and Israel. Because China is the outstanding opponent of the U. S., the Peking argument goes, the Arabs and Africans should support China's anti-U. S. struggle in Viet Nam.

Mao Tse-Tung figures that trouble over Israel would strengthen China's influence among the Arab states — his theory being that the U. S. would favor the Israeli side.

Ever since Shukairy visited Peking, the Chinese have been rebroadcasting, especially to the Middle East, his statements that the Palestine Liberation Organization soon must start a liberation movement.

Peking also finds the PLO helpful as a weapon in its militant campaign against the Soviet Union's policy of "peaceful co-existence."

Peking poses with the Arabs as being more willing to support any Arab move to "liberate" Palestine from the Israelis than the Soviets.

However, a key in this problem is the United Arab Republic, which is dependent on large economic aid and credits from the Soviets, especially for such projects as the Aswan Dam.

The UAR is not opposed to propagandizing about Israel but at this stage appears less inclined to move toward militant policies than Shukairy (and Peking) would like to do.